

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Forest Department - Diversion of 136.50 Ha. of forest land for JVR-OCP-I expansion Project in Khammam Forest Division, Khammam District, Andhra Pradesh, in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited- Permission accorded - Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O Ms. No. 94

Dated:07-12-2012.

Read the following:-

1. From PCCF, A.P, Hyderabad, Lr.Rc.No.55837/2006-F1, dt.17-05-2008.
2. State Govt. Lr.No.3952/For.I (1)/2008, dt:30-05-2008.
3. From GOI, MoEF, New Delhi Lr.F.No.8-56/2009-FC, dt:13-11-2011.
4. State Govt. letter No. 3952/FOR.I (1)/2008, dt.25-03-2011
5. From GOI, MoEF, New Delhi Lr.F.No.8-56/2008-FC, dt:03-07-2012.

ORDER:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad in his letter 1st read above, has submitted a proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 136.50 Ha. forest land in Lankapalli R.F. in Sattupalli Range of Khammam Division for expansion of existing JVR OCP-I Mine (formerly Sattupalli OCP-I) in favour of CGM, Kothagudem, M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited and requested to forward the same to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, for according necessary approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. The said proposal was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, for their approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide State Government letter 2nd read above.

3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, vide their letter 3rd read above, have accorded their approval in-principle (Stage-I) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, subject to compliance of certain conditions as stipulated therein.

4. The State Government vide letter 4th read above, have furnished compliance report on the conditions stipulated by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests. The State Government vide further letter dated.19-06-2012 have furnished certain additional information as desired by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests.

5. Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, in their letter 5th read above, have accorded their approval (Stage-II) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 136.50 Ha. of forest land for JVR-OCP-I expansion project in Khammam Forest Division, Khammam District, Andhra Pradesh, in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited, subject to compliance of certain conditions as stipulated therein.

6. Government after careful examination of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, for diversion of 136.50 Ha. of forest land for JVR-OCP-I expansion Project in Khammam Forest Division, Khammam District, Andhra Pradesh, in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (ii) State Government shall realize additional NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- (iii) Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department on equivalent forest land as proposed at the project cost.
- (iv) The non-forest land identified for raising Compensatory Afforestation shall be notified by the State Government as RF under Section - 4 or PF under Section - 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act, as the case may be. The Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) shall report compliance in this regard, within a period of six months.
- (v) Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area (7.5 meters strip all along the outer boundary of the mining lease area as recommended by the State Government) shall be done at the project cost. Besides this, Afforestation on degraded forest land, to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone i.e., 7.5 mt, shall also be done at the project cost.
- (vi) Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake Afforestation measures in the blanks within the lease area, as well as along the roads outside the lease area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
- (vii) As the town Sattupally is nearby, the User Agency shall take up Afforestation in the forest areas surrounding mining lease in 100 Meters radius from the lease boundary wherever density of growth is less than 0.4 and protect it till life of the Project in consultation with State Forest Department.
- (viii) De-silting of the village tanks falling within 5 Kms radius from the lease boundary shall be taken up by the User Agency at regular intervals.
- (ix) Following activities shall be undertaken by the User Agency at the project cost:
 - (a) Proper mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams shall be prepared and implemented.
 - (b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds to arrest soil erosion.
 - (c) Construction of check dams, retention / toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour along all the decks of the overburdens.
 - (d) The areas shall be reclaimed keeping in view the international practice of stabilizing the dumps by grading / benching so that angles of repose (normally less than 28° at any given place) are maintained.
 - (e) The top soil management plan should be strictly adhered to.
 - (f) Any tree felling shall be done only when it is absolutely necessary and unavoidable, and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.

- (x) Demarcation of mining lease area will be done on the ground at project cost using four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars with serial numbers, forward and back bearings and distance from pillar to pillar.
- (xi) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- (xii) The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to the clearance under the Environmental Protection Act, 1986.
- (xiii) The period of permission for lease under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will be for 20 years subject to possession of valid lease by User Agency under the MMDR Act, 1957.
- (xiv) Mining / reclamation schedule shall be implemented by the User Agency at their cost as per Environmental Management Plan / phased programme.
- (xv) The User Agency shall also take up study on yearly basis on soil erosion / soil flow from the over-burden areas with the help of GIS in consultation with the forest department.
- (xvi) The User Agency shall take up the de-silting of the village tanks within five km area from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks whenever required.
- (xvii) Any other condition that the State Government or the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore may impose from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection or development of forests.
- (xviii) User Agency shall submit annual self-monitoring report, indicating status of compliance to the conditions stipulated in the approval, to the State Government and the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry, and
- (xix) All other conditions under different rules, regulations and guidelines including environmental clearance and forest rights of tribals and other forest dweller shall be complied with.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad is directed to take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

M. SAMUEL.

SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Inspector General of Forests,
Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.

The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)
Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Regional Office (Southern Zone) Kendriya Sadan, IV Floor E & F Wings,
17th Main Road, II Block, Koramangala, BANGALORE -560 034.

SF/SC

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER.